

Elk Point REVIEW

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Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Vol. 29 No. 3 • 75 cents (GST incl.)

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Vicki Brooker photo

"He's not scary at all!" declared these young crows when they met the scarecrow in the harvest field during Elk Point Metelytsia Ukrainian Dance Club's portrayal of the Ukrainian settlers' arrival in their new homeland, where crows in the crop were one of the obstacles to their hoped-for prosperity. The dancers' salute to their pioneering ancestors was part of Saturday's celebration of Malanka at the Elks Hall. More photos, Pages 6 and 7.

Dancers pay lively tribute to Ukrainian pioneers

By VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

In the early 1900s, many brave settlers left the Ukraine to make the long and arduous journey to Canada. On their arrival at the east coast, they heard of the plentiful free land to be had in the west, and boarded trains, bound for a new life in an untamed wilderness.

Elk Point's Metelytsia Ukrainian Dance Club paid tribute to those hardy pioneers at Saturday's Malanka celebration at the Elks Hall, entertaining a capacity crowd with their portrayal of the settlers' experiences in the new land.

The newcomers first appeared in a ship bouncing across a rough Atlantic Ocean, riding the waves and fighting both seasickness and homesickness. Once again on dry land, they were met by a lantern-swinging engineer who swiftly lined them up into a train which chugged cheerfully across the nation toward their goal: the land office. There they signed up to receive homesteads, and set out to make new lives for themselves.

A young man pushing a big plow represented the breaking of the sod. He was joined by another lad to help him broadcast seed on the fertile soil. Before long, a bountiful crop of wheat, represented by the senior dancers, swayed in the summer breezes as the girls performed their Wheat Dance.

The boys were joined by the younger girls when it came time to cut the crop, the boys swishing their long-handled scythes while the girls swooped in with short-handled sickles to assist with the harvest.

The farmer and his wife brought out rakes to gather up the crop, and were so tired from their labours that they laid down by the big straw-stack to rest. They were no sooner asleep than a group of tiny mice skittered into view, dancing and nibbling cheese with gusto and heading back into hiding before their unwitting hosts awakened.

Where has the crop gone? It must have been those crows. The couple brought out a scarecrow to guard the field, but they were no sooner out of sight than the scarecrow came to life, doing a little dance and making friends with the crows.

(Continued on Page 12)

Town exploring water supply options

By VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

A regional water supply study is underway, but Elk Point town council learned about additional options last week when representatives of one of Alberta's utility giants came to council's January 12 meeting to talk about potential partnerships for the future.

Scott MacKenzie, manager of business development for ATCO Water, and Tony Salters of ATCO Pipelines gave council background information on the Alberta-based company as well as outlining ATCO's experience with water technology and systems and the partnership options available.

Salters told council that ATCO Water, launched at last fall's AUMA Convention in Edmonton, leverages the expe-

rience of the ATCO Group of Companies, The family-controlled company grew from a tiny trailer rental business founded in 1947 to a vast enterprise with over \$8 billion in assets and 7,800 employees worldwide over the past six decades.

ATCO currently owns and operates utilities in nearly 300 Alberta communities, and has launched an aggressive \$3 billion utility capital program for the coming three years, he noted.

ATCO employees "get a chance to really expand their careers," and the company provides career opportunities for local utility operators in the communities it serves, where "our employees are members of the community."

MacKenzie told council that ATCO was involved in the construction of an innovative, large-scale solar and geother-

mal system in Okotoks, "one of the greenest communities in Canada," and also were part of "a pretty advanced water recycling project" in Queensland, Australia.

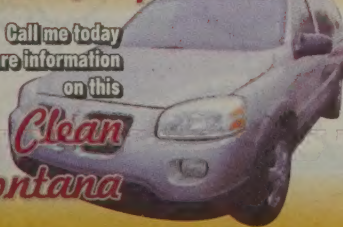
Closer to home, ATCO owns and operates the CU Water Highway 14 Regional Water System, with a pipeline delivering treated water from Edmonton to municipal water distribution systems in Ryley, Holden and Bruce, with connections to farms, agricultural businesses, subdivisions and other rural customers. On the industrial side, ATCO operates 19 power plants that include water treatment facilities covering diverse technologies such as ionic transfer, standard and ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis. These and other technologies "work well for different applications, balancing cost, complexity and treatment needs," MacKenzie said.

(Continued on Page 2)

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It's Okay to Ask

P.A.R.T.Y. program in planning stage

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth, or P.A.R.T.Y., program, aimed at teaching young people to make smart choices instead of being involved in risky and potentially deadly behaviour, is one step closer to becoming a reality in Elk Point.

Guy Genereux of St. Paul Victim Services told the Jan. 14 meeting of the Elk Point Community Advisory Policing Committee that Germaine Labrie from F. G. Miller High School has agreed to join the planning group, and that Paulette Levasseur has indicated a staff member from Elk Point Health Care Centre is also interested in being involved. A final organizational meeting where the date for the program will be set and responsibilities established is planned for Jan. 28 at the health care centre.

Genereux is "especially excited about finding coordinators," and says the program is "a community effort."

RCMP Sgt. Darryl Eagles introduced the two newest members of the Elk Point detachment to the CAPC. Cst. Adam Bullock just arrived from

the training depot in Regina, and Cst. John Spaans arrived in Elk Point shortly after the last CAPC meeting, giving the detachment one more than a full complement of members, until Cst. Mark Cusack leaves to take up his new post in Edson.

The possibility of reviving the Citizens On Patrol was brought forward by town Coun. Dick Millar, who plans to meet with Spaans to discuss reorganizing the once-successful program. He says the town is also looking into the Safe Communities program, and asked CAPC chair Deanna Easthope for her assistance in completing an application for a grant which is available to help set up the program. He said the town has also allocated funds for it.

A problem has been noted with individuals retrieving outdated food items from store dumpsters.

Another current problem involves children playing on snow piled in parking lots, and potentially putting themselves in danger.

Genereux said a move is currently afoot to set up sexual assault centres for the region.

"I'm certainly behind that," he said.

"We need a place to refer clients, and I've suggested they have outreach capability."

At a meeting held last August where year-to-date statistics for sexual assault in northeast Alberta communities were brought forward, "the authorities felt there was a need for 2.8 counselors in the area," Genereux said. "I think it would be an enhancement for the region."

Easthope reported that 21 families were assisted by Santas Anonymous this Christmas season.

Sgt. Eagles reported another busy period since the last CAPC meeting, with the most recent incidents being the armed robberies at Frog Lake and Lea Park and the vehicle fire at Frog Lake that was found to contain a body.

Several arrests have been made on outstanding warrants in recent weeks, and the detachment also dealt with "a lot of domestic violence" over the Christmas season. Numerous collisions on the extremely icy North Saskatchewan River bridge south of Elk Point were also keeping the detachment hopping, and Sgt. Eagles said he is "thankful I have a good crew" to deal with the heavy case load.

Canada Day planning underway

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Five and a half months of planning for Elk Point's 2009 Canada Day celebrations got underway last week, with a small group of volunteers joining committee chair Bernice Capjack and secretary-treasurer Deanna Easthope at the first meeting.

Far from the comfortable financial cushion last year's committee started with, this year's group is faced with less than \$50 in the bank before fundraising begins next month. One of the reasons planning starts this early is to complete the application for a federal grant toward the celebration, but the forms are not yet available, Easthope said.

The fledgling committee went through the lineup of activities and attractions that make up the Canada Day program, and listed potential volunteers or groups to assist with each part of the program.

Venues also came under discussion. With the new EcoCentre and fire hall both under construction and the area between them fenced off, new locations will be needed for the parade lineup, Farm Survival Challenge and fireworks. It may be possible to use Railway Ave. for the parade lineup, and the survival challenge and fireworks may be relocated north of the arena.

The scorching heat endured by participants and spectators during past Strong Man Competitions could be alleviated by moving that event into the A. G. Ross Arena, if it is available, and the new Allied Arts Centre was seen as a better fit than the Elks Hall for the enormous crowd generated by the Canada Day Idol. An alternate site may also be needed for the art show, since last year's location now houses the playschool.

The need for additional food outlets during Canada Day was also discussed. The chamber of commerce pancake breakfast starts off the day, the arena booth and Christian Community Church pie tent supply lunch for many visitors, and the Elks beef-on-a-bun supper has been a huge success, but these outlets are stretched to capacity.

Answers to these challenges and others, including who should be the 2009 stage show headliner, will be brought to the committee's next meeting in mid-February.

SPERD pupil-teacher ratio among the best in province

By SHAUNA BURKE
Review Contributor

St. Paul Education School Division has one of the best pupil/teacher ratio's in the province, heard the St. Paul Education Regional Division board at this month's regular meeting on Jan. 14.

"Once again you can see that as far as the pupil teacher ratio goes, we are among the best in the province," explained secretary-treasurer Jean Champagne. "Ours is at 14.07 and the provincial average is 16.39... for us to get to that provincial average we would have to cut 38 teachers." "This is something we can be proud of because there is only one jurisdiction that is bigger than us, that has a lower pupil teacher ratio than us," said trustee Ron Rudkowsky.

Kindergarten

A full-time French Kindergarten Program will be offered again at St. Paul Elementary Community school next year.

The St. Paul Education Regional Division board approved a one-year extension of the full-time French Kindergarten pilot at St. Paul Elementary School, last week.

Two Hills modernization

Alberta Education denied the board's request for four new modular classrooms, stating that "they don't have any available and there is no funding for additional modulars," reported Champagne.

Transportation

The Board is supporting the Alberta Public School Board's position on transportation issues such as reducing the walk limit from 2.4 km to 1.5 km.

"While 2.4 km does not seem like a long distance in some situations, a lot depends on the age of the student and where they have to walk. If they have to cross main highways and they are in Grade 1, 2 or 3 then it is a problem. So boards have been providing that service

despite the fact that there is no funding for anyone under 2.4 kms... We want to register our support for what APSP is doing," explained Rudkowsky.

Council of Elders

The Board presented information on Edmonton Catholics Schools' Council of Elders.

"It may be one way that we might be able to incorporate all our First Nations groups. But this is just information at this time and when we see what's there we can have more of a discussion about it if it is a solution for us," said Superintendent Doug Yeo.

(Continued on Page 9)

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Ask a SCHOOL TRUSTEE

Why does it seem that the kids are out of school so often?

It may seem as though students in our district have a lot of days off from school, but our instructional days, as determined by the government, are actually higher than what is required. The calendar committee has the responsibility of taking the required number of instructional days, working them around holidays, professional development days and other pre-set dates to come up with a calendar that satisfies staff, students and parents, while staying within provincial guidelines.

Some of the other dates the calendar committee must consider include possible school closures due to bad weather, provincial exam dates as predetermined by Alberta Education, teacher convention dates, and early school closing for staff meetings which is included in our local Alberta Teachers Association collective agreement.

Learning does not end in the classroom. We support the professional development of staff, which is achieved in various ways. We offer full division professional development days as well as learning opportunities through Professional Learning Communities (PLC). PLCs are designed to allow teacher input and growth in the direction of individual school improvement. Teachers will typically meet before or after school, and as a result, they are able to take time in lieu during the scheduled professional development days. All school professional learning plans are reviewed and approved by the Superintendent.

After all of these dates are considered, the calendar committee is left with very few options for scheduling each school year. So, even though students have days off throughout the year, we are on par with other districts across the province.

This monthly series is brought to you by the Board of Trustees from St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1. If you have a question for us, please contact us by mail: 4901-47 St., St. Paul, AB, T0A 3A3; or visit our website: www.stpauleducation.ab.ca.



EDITORIAL

History in the making

Today is the first day of a new chapter of history for the United States, as they welcome their 44th president.

The first African American to take the presidential office, Barack Obama is the son of a Kenyan foreign student and a white American from Wichita, Kansas, and has served one term as a United States senator from Illinois and eight years on the Illinois state senate. He brings to the oval office a background in community organization, civil rights law and constitutional law.

As with his 43 predecessors, Obama will bring his own unique qualities to the presidency. He will bring new ideas, new enthusiasm and new ways of accomplishing goals as he takes on the enormous task of governing one of the world's leading nations.

It is encouraging to hear that his first official visit will be to Canada. That would indicate that he knows we're up here and he is willing to extend the hand of friendship to the neighbours next door.

May he meet all his challenges with success, and may his term in the White House bring peace and prosperity.

WAY BACK WHEN...

Dedication, innovation and options

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE ELK POINT REVIEW AND THE LAKELAND REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 20 IN...

1989

Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club celebrated 10 years with a pyrohy supper, mini-concert and dance, where special recognition went to six families who were part of the organization throughout the decade, Ed and Ruth Vogel, Steve and Genevieve Shmyr, John and Joyce Oryschuk, Diane Wolanuk, John and Gladys Drobot and Lesia and Adolph Porcina, along with Bernice Poleschuk, who had served on the executive since its beginning. Sidewalk snow removal was still the occupants' job, despite the town's purchase of a sidewalk-sized snow blower, as streets and lanes were the municipal priority with sidewalks along municipal property coming third.

1994

Evan Adrian Faithful, son of Monica Cardinal, put in his appearance on January 12 to become the 1994 New Year's baby. Elk Point Pioneer Circle president Lillian Palinka accepted a \$8,000 grant from Vegreville MLA Ed Stelmach toward continued development of their recreation centre, a project which Stelmach said showed innovative planning to get the maximum use from the building.

1999

Town council unveiled plans to install curb and gutter in a three-block area, in addition to installing new water mains and paving on two blocks of 55 Ave. and a block of 49 St., with the cost to be recouped through a yearly frontage levy. Elk Point Trail Riders set a goal to establish a series of trails for snowmobile touring.

2004

Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club had a full house for their fourth annual Malanka celebration, which featured some very special guests, the St. Paul and District Ukrainian Cultural Choir. Town council declared themselves happy with Elk Point's ambulance service, in answer to a request by Aspen Regional Health Authority for feedback on current service and potential options for inter-hospital transfers.

GUEST COLUMN

Inauguration day

In the United States, today, January 20, it is the Presidential Inauguration Day. The oath of office will be administered on the steps of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC. Following the oath of office, the President will give his inaugural address, setting out his vision for America and goals for the nation. The ceremony begins at 11:30 a.m.

January 20 was not always the Inauguration Day. The Constitution of the United States had established March 4 as Inauguration Day in order to allow enough time after Election Day for officials to gather election returns and for newly-elected candidates to travel to the capital. With modern advances in communication and transportation, the lengthy transition period proved unnecessary and legislators pressed for change. The date was moved to January 20 with the passage of the 20th amendment in 1933.

Inaugural celebrations have run the gamut from Andrew Jackson's raucous White House reception in 1829 to FDR's somber wartime affair in 1945, but a basic pattern of activities has been established over the years. Around noon, the president is sworn in at the Capitol by the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. After taking the brief, 35-word oath of office, the new chief executive delivers an inaugural address, followed by a parade through the city, and an evening of gala festivities.

After the Chief Justice administers the Oath of Office, the first person to speak to the American people and the world will be the new president. The second will be Elizabeth Alexander, whom President-elect Obama has

chosen to read a poem she is composing for the momentous occasion.



deanna
EASTHOPE
from the FCSS desk

of Yale's African American Studies Department. In 2007, she was the first recipient of the Jackson Poetry Prize, awarded by Poets and Writers to honor poets who have published books of high literary merit but who have not yet met public acclaim. Her most recent book of poetry, *American Sublime*, was the finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Poem reading for the occasion is important. For example, on January 20, 1961, John F. Kennedy distinguished his inaugural ceremony with a poetry reading by fellow New Englander Robert Frost. Blinded by the sun's glare on the snow-covered Capitol grounds, Frost found himself unable to read the poem he had prepared. Instead, he recited "The Gift Outright" from memory, his words moving many. "Dedication", the poem Frost intended to read is featured in *Words and Deeds in American History*. The Gift Outright can be found in the Imagination section of the Library's American Treasures exhibition. So yes, the reading of a poem becomes just as important as the address itself.

Remembering Inaugural addresses by previous American Presidents, the words from John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Address given on Friday, January 20, 1961, is often remembered and quoted: "And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man."

Will the words be similar today? Well, we know they will be around the official theme for the 2009 inauguration which is "Renewing America's Promise."

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

ELK POINT REVIEW

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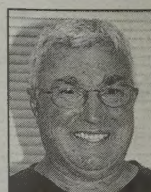
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Agreement #40069240

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Canada

Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Contest winners



Elk Point winners in the Royal Canadian Legion's annual Poppy Contest who relieved their cheques and certificates from Mae Hendrickson included, left to right, Spencer Young, first in Junior Essay, Shelby Berg, second in Junior Essay, Ashton Ewasiuk, second in Junior Poster and (not shown) Hannah Ludlage, first in Junior poster. Their entries now go on to the next level of competition.



Tia Lowry, first in Black-and-White Poster, also relieved a cheque and certificate from Legion representative Mae Hendrickson.

Diane Dewan photos

Evergreen approved to accept more waste

By JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

On Dec. 30, 2008, Alberta Environment approved the reclassification of the Evergreen Regional Landfill, meaning the landfill can now accept more than 10,000 tonnes of waste per year. Some of that waste will be brought in from outside the commission.

Evergreen Regional Landfill Manager Dennis Bergheim explains that the reclassification was "not a matter of if, but when." He adds that the Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission was expecting the approval to come sometime between January and March.

"It has to happen," said Robert Bouchard, chair of the Evergreen commission. "We knew we had to apply for that years ago."

When construction of the landfill first began, the commission estimated the amount of waste coming in would be around 10,000 tonnes per year, so Alberta Environment felt the landfill could operate as such, then seek reclassification when it was needed. The landfill is already taking in more than 10,000 tonnes, said Bouchard.

The reclassification means the landfill can accept more waste, "subject to terms and conditions," says Bergheim. But, he adds that the commission has already been following those terms and conditions, and "they're just more laid out in the approval."

By April, the Beaver River Regional Waste Management Commission, which is comprised of the Town and MD of Bonnyville, and City of Cold Lake, will also be hauling its waste to the Evergreen landfill, located near Lafond.

(Continued on Page 8)

County to purchase new highway signs

By JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

New County of St. Paul highway signs will soon be erected along secondary highways surrounding the county. A total cost to purchase and install the new signs would exceed \$21,000.

"I got no problem with the sign," said Coun. Frank Sloan, as council discussed the new signs, adding, "I'm just worried about the money."

The signs will be made from concrete and are expected to last a long time.

"These are permanent signs," said Deputy Reeve Glen Ockerman. Fourteen signs would allow the county to replace all existing wood signs, and add additional signs where needed.

In the end, the majority of council voted in favour of the new signs.

Plaques acknowledging area residents who have been farming on the same original homestead for 100 years have also been designed and will be ordered as needed.

"The key was original homestead," said Acting CAO Tim Mahdiuk, otherwise, there would be far too many families requesting the signs.

Families who have lived on the very same original homestead for 100 years can qualify for the plaques, which were designed with the help of local artist Herman Poulin.

Each sign will cost the county \$300.

Lafond hall

Council decided to cease almost all operations at the Lafond Community Centre last Tuesday. The public library will continue to run for the time being, and the Navy League will continue to rent out the hall until a new space is found.

No new renters will be booking the hall. Last month, it was announced that residents could no longer operate the Community Centre. The hall will be transferred back to St. Paul Education Regional Division, since it was a school prior to being a community hall.

A potential date of March 31 has been set for the permanent closure of the hall.

Chamber of Commerce

The St. Paul and District Chamber of Commerce spent time discussing their successes over the past year with County council last week.

The rodeo parade, Seniors mini games, Passport for Christmas, and meet and greet among long businesses were among the items mentioned. The Chamber added that it is currently looking to organize a summer promotion to encourage people to shop locally.

President Doug Lamb also added that a consultant for a professional medical centre has been hired.

"I think it's going to be an interesting year," said Lamb.

(Continued on Page 8)

What you need to know about

paying your outstanding 2008 Alberta health care premiums

Did you know that you may still owe?

Even though Albertans will no longer be billed for health care premiums in 2009, premium payments still owing to December 31, 2008 remain in effect.

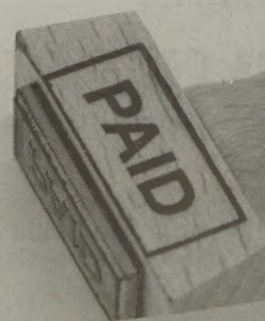
Who is responsible for paying 2008 health care premiums?

- All Albertans unless they qualify for premium assistance, government-sponsored income support programs or are senior citizens.
- Employers and benefit administrators who collect and/or remit premiums on behalf of their employees.
- New Albertans who have registered and were eligible for Alberta Health Care Insurance in 2008.

Alberta Health and Wellness would like to thank Albertans who have paid 2008 premiums and remind those yet to pay their bill in full, that Alberta Health and Wellness will continue to issue statements on accounts with outstanding premiums. As well, those paying Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group insurance premiums, or other supplemental health premiums, will continue to pay in 2009 as those premiums remain in effect.

For more information visit www.health.alberta.ca or call toll-free 310-0000 then dial 780-427-1432. In Edmonton, call 780-427-1432.

Alberta A Healthy Approach





History of Ukrainian settlement portrayed at Malanka

The trials and triumphs experienced by the Ukrainian people who emigrated to Canada a century ago were portrayed in dance by Elk Point's Metelytsia Ukrainian Dance Club during their Malanka concert. Top left: the ocean voyage was long and rough for these stoic pioneers. Bottom left: The virgin sod yielded reluctantly to the newcomers' plows. Below, top to bottom: the settlers seeded their first crops; mice cavorted in the fields while the tired farmer and his wife slept; the farmer had words with his uncooperative cow; and the senior dancers portrayed the graceful swaying of the growing crops in the warm summer breeze.



Vicki Brooker photos



Important Notice to Employers

Supporting Students: Serving Communities

Canada Summer Jobs is a Government of Canada initiative. It provides funding for not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers, and small businesses with 50 or fewer employees to create work experiences for students between the ages of 15 and 30.

If you are an eligible employer, we invite you to submit your application between **February 2 and February 27, 2009.**

Application forms will be available online, or at any Service Canada Centre.

Applications can be submitted online, by mail, by fax, or in person at any Service Canada Centre.

In early February, Service Canada will be hosting information sessions on Canada Summer Jobs 2009. This will be your opportunity to learn more about the initiative and the application process.

For more information:

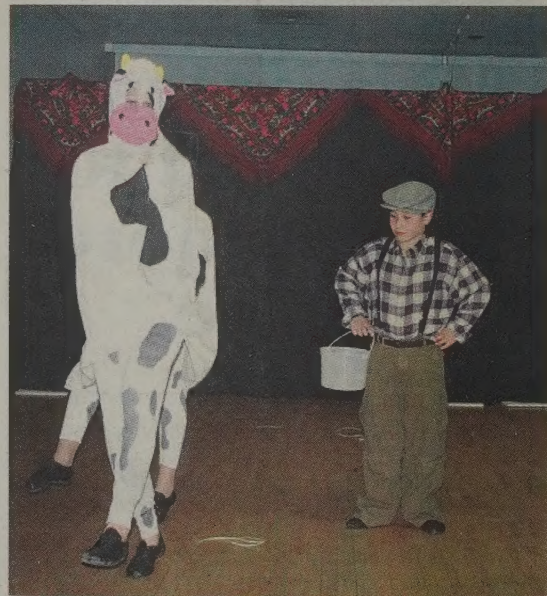
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Newcomers enjoy the happy times

The new arrivals head west by train (above) after their arrival in Canada, their enthusiasm recharged by promises of free land; left, top to bottom: a settler gleefully holds her land title aloft; harvest is a happy time for the boys and girls as they wield long-and short-handled scythes to cut the grain; the women cheer the young cosacks on as they cavort at a lively Zabava celebrating the completion of their first harvest.



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Evergreen approved to accept more waste

(Continued from Page 5)

The BRRWMC has been waiting for the reclassification approval for some time, and has recently completed work on transfer stations near Bonnyville and Cold Lake, and work on five satellite stations in the MD are expected to be complete soon.

Bouchard explains that the reclassification is part of the long-term planning going into the regional landfill. He adds that the commission's goal is to have a safe place to dispose of waste "at a reasonable cost to taxpayers."

Bouchard added that the Alberta government is certainly in support of the cooperative effort both commissions are making. Bringing in waste from the Bonnyville area is a cost saving to taxpayers and the commissions, he says.

"We want it to be safe," said Bouchard. He adds that the environmental concerns of nearby residents should have been

addressed in the approval process. "We just need to do something with (the waste)."

It is expected that on average about two to three additional trucks will be visiting the landfill per day, bringing in waste from the Bonnyville/Cold Lake area.

Letters from concerned residents received by Alberta Environment during the application process "have been considered," according to an email received by Carrie Sancier, a public affairs officer with Alberta Environment.

She adds that "Those who submitted the letters of Statement of Concern are free to appeal the decision."

"We were really surprised," says Dr. Amil Shapka, a nearby resident who had filed concerns regarding the application. He explains that some residents had refiled concerns after Christmas, but because the decision had already been made, those concerns "were never considered."

"We thought that we would have a little more opportunity for input," he adds.

Now, nearby residents who filed concerns are faced with the possibility of appealing the decision, which is exactly what Shapka plans to do.

"It's an interesting process," says Shapka of the appeal process. One step, he says, includes mediation, which he feels would be a good opportunity to find some common ground between the two sides.

Shapka adds that he was never against the approval itself if it had been needed to accept more waste from within the Evergreen commission. However, he is opposed to the landfill accepting waste from outside its boundaries.

In the Dec. 30 issue of the *St. Paul*

Journal it was also noted that if Alberta Environment allows Evergreen to accept waste from outside its boundaries, then ERWMC member municipalities would receive reimbursements, including over \$100,000 for both the Town of St. Paul and Smoky Lake County, over \$20,000 for both the Town of Elk Point and Town of Smoky Lake. The Village of Vilna and the Village of Waskatenau would each receive nearly \$5,000 back.

The municipality standing to be reimbursed the most would be the County of St. Paul, which would receive \$183,895. The money would come from the \$451,830 capital contribution BRRWMC has to make to Evergreen as its share of the original capital cost of developing Evergreen.

County to purchase new highway signs

(Continued from Page 5)

After speaking with the Chamber of Commerce, council passed a motion to continue funding the Chambers throughout the county in the same amount as last year.

"The Chambers do a fine job," said Coun. Cliff Martin.

Transfer station

A lease agreement between the County of St. Paul, the Town of St. Paul and the Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission has been approved by council.

The lease agreement "allows Evergreen to develop and construct the transfer station on the lands," says the Jan. 13 agenda from council's last regular meeting.

The agreement is a standard 10-year agreement, said Dennis Bergheim. Ownership of the land is split between the town and

county 75/25.

A motion to pass the lease agreement with some minor amendments was carried.

A Joint Transfer Station Operating Agreement between the town and county was also presented but was tabled pending further information regarding the construction of additional buildings at the site.

The transfer station will be located west of the St. Paul Municipal See Cleaning Plant.

Road Construction

Just over 20 miles of road throughout the County of St. Paul could possibly be built in 2009. A list of 2009 road construction projects was presented to council but was tabled and referred back to public works.

Motorscraper

Council agreed to purchase a used 627 Motorscraper from the County of Minburn for

\$425,000. A group travelled to Minburn to look at the equipment before bringing the decision to council.

Street lights

At next month's council meeting, council will be presented with information regarding complete cut-off lighting, in response to a request made by a county resident for an additional street light at Crestview Beach.

Lac Sante Rec Society

The Lac Sante Family Recreation Society is requesting council consider giving the organization MSI funding to pursue the development of a multi-purpose trail.

The issue was tabled since the trail is not yet "written in stone," according to Mahdiuk.

February meeting

The February County of St. Paul council meeting has been rescheduled from Feb. 10 to Feb. 19.



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Senior Project Book winner

Robyn Ockerman accepted the award for first place senior project book for the St. Paul 4-H Region from Shelley Tymofichuk. Robyn went on to place second in the North East Region competition.

Mona Bristow photo



Junior Project Book winner

Ashley Bristow placed first in the junior record book competition for the St. Paul District, and accepted her award from Shelley Tymofichuk. Ashley placed fifth in juniors for the North East Region.

Mona Bristow photo



Pupil-teacher ratio among best in province

(Continued from Page 3)

Trustee Upham will attend a meeting with the Edmonton Catholic to collect more information on their program.

High school project

The Board received information from the School of Public Health about students from St. Paul Regional High School being included in the Community Health and the Built Environment project in St Paul.

Alberta School Board Association

Four members of the public will be selected to accompany two trustees to a summit on Putting the Public Back in Education - Public Involvement in Our Schools. The four members of the public, selected by the board to represent the division, will not have children in the school system.

School Renovations

The renovations to St. Paul Elementary School are proceeding as planned. Now that the SPECS modernization is underway, planning for the Racette School project will resume later in January.

Employee Assistance

The Employee Assistance Program report was presented to the Board. "This is a program that we offer to our employees. They can access this program confidentially and seek assistance with a number of issues such as family counseling, financial concerns and a wide variety of other concerns," explained Superintendent Doug Yeo after the meeting.

Substitute teacher system

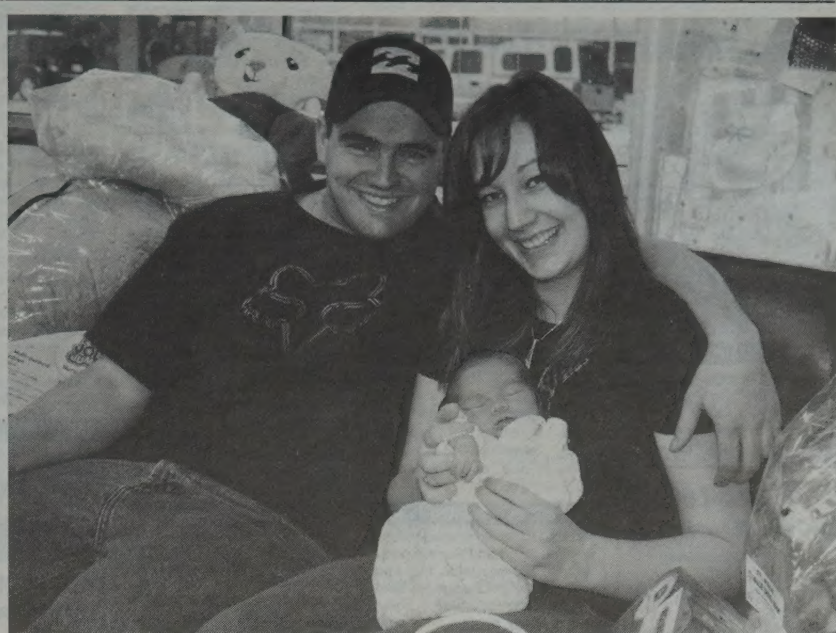
"We are investigating an automated substitute teacher

call list which is used by other School Divisions around us," explained Trustee Maureen Miller. The system would make it easier and more efficient for principals to contact substitute teachers in the morning.

"It was unanimous that all administrators want this," added Miller.

Parent feedback

The Communication Committee will be seeking community feedback on the school calendar. Trustees were asked to solicit feedback from parent councils and schools on whether or not the Division Calendar publication should be repeated next year.



Submitted photo

Hailey Elizabeth Plouffe-Danyluk was born on Jan. 1 at 10:45 a.m. at the St. Therese Health Centre, making her the first baby born in St. Paul in 2009. Proud parents are Kristen Plouffe and Peter Danyluk.

St. Paul's New Year's baby comes home at last

By JANICE HUSER

Review Contributor

While awaiting their daughter's birth, Kristen Plouffe and Peter Danyluk had no idea they would become parents to the 2009 New Year's baby.

But, little Hailey Elizabeth Plouffe-Danyluk had other plans. Hailey was born on Jan. 1, at 10:45 a.m. at the St. Therese Health Care Centre, weighing 7 lbs 1/2 oz, coming three weeks early according to Kristen's due date of Jan. 21.

Shortly after Hailey was born, doctors decided to fly her to Red Deer Neonatal Intensive Care Unit due to breathing problems.

"It was a long labour," explains Kristen. She adds that she is very thankful to the doctors who helped deliver Hailey.

"They were just amazing," says Kristen. Peter is quick to add that the nursing staff on second floor was equally amazing.

So, at just six hours old, Hailey was flown to Red Deer, where her parents stayed with her for about a week. Then, it was off to the Stollery Children's Hospital at the University of Alberta for another week.

The new family returned home healthy and obviously happy last Wednesday. And although it was a stressful first two weeks, Kristen and Peter can only describe their experience as new parents as being "awesome" and "exciting."

Peter and Kristen certainly had the opportunity to grow closer as a couple during their stay at the U of A, where they had to share a small room with only one single bed.

"We're just happy to be home," says Kristen.

New grandma Lorraine Danyluk, who is also obviously excited about welcoming her first grand-

daughter into the world, explains that Peter and Kristen had a lot of time to bond while taking care of their baby girl. Lorraine is also proud to say that she and her new granddaughter share the same middle name.

Lorraine and her husband, MLA Ray Danyluk also welcomed their first grandchild into their growing family just this past summer.

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Elk Point Baptist Church

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Pastor Jason Goulet

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Sundays - 10 a.m.

Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.

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www.elkpointbaptistchurch.org

St. Vladimirs' Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Elk Point

For service times, call 645-5156,

St. Paul or 724-4175, Elk Point.

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724-3616

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Father Ambrose

Sunday Mass.

11:30 a.m.

Mass 1st Tuesday of the month at

Parkview Extended Care, 4 p.m.

Mass and Holy Hour

1st Friday of the month at 7 p.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church of Lea Park

Weekly Services, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion 2nd and 3rd

Sundays

Bible Fellowship Church Clandonald

Services held every

Sunday at 11 a.m.

OBITUARY

DANIELS, Alice Mary

On January 8, 2009, Mrs. Alice Mary Daniels of Fishing Lake passed away peacefully at the age of 96 years. Left to cherish her memory is her family of 1 son and 2 daughters, Bertha Christensen, Ross (Joan) Daniels and Lillian (Rodney) Laboucane; 13 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins and also her caregiver, Mary Jane Mallari. She was predeceased by her husband, Louis; her parents, William and Mary Dummont; son, David; daughter, Edna; 2 sisters, Julia Daniels and Maggie Gladue; 4 brothers, Sam, John, Louis and Harry Dummont and son-in-law, Bud Christensen. Prayer Service was held Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Yewchin's Funeral Chapel, St. Paul with Reverend Father Real Levesseur officiating. Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, January 14 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Eugene Roman Catholic Church, Fishing Lake. Reverend Father Rene Realuyo was the celebrant with interment in Fishing Lake Community Cemetery, Fishing Lake.

Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd., St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177

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BERG, Leonard

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St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1

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Heinsburg Community School requires an Instructional Assistant for the remainder of the 2008 - 2009 academic year commencing as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be working with students requiring emotional and behavior support. Instructional assistant training or experience would be considered an asset. The successful individuals will be highly energetic, enthusiastic and student-centered. Heinsburg Community School is a K-12 school of approximately 155 students.

For more information contact
Miss Jill Jackson, Principal at 780-943-3913.

Please fax your resume by
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In accordance with Board Policy, the successful applicant will be required to provide a current Criminal Record Check.

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St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1

Superintendent/CEO

Due to the retirement of the long-term incumbent, the Board invites applications for the position of Superintendent/CEO for St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1. Duties will commence August 1, 2009 or as mutually agreed.

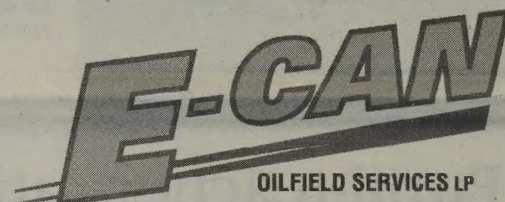
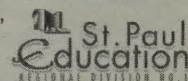
St. Paul Education Regional Division covers a large rural/urban area in Northeast Alberta. The Division is unique in that it operates both separate and public schools under one unified board. The Division serves approximately 4,083 students, and the central office is located in the Town of St. Paul.

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The competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Applications received by February 2, 2009 are assured careful consideration. E-mail by February 2, 2009 a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and a list of at least five recent references to:

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Kalyna Country celebrating Travel Alberta award winners

As 2008 came to a close Kalyna Country Ecomuseum patted themselves on the back for yet another success year. The achievement of the year is the Travel Alberta nomination for the prestigious ALTO Award in Marketing for the highly successful and much anticipated Dine Kalyna that was held in conjunction with the Vegreville Fair.

The Yearend Meeting, that was held this year in the Radway Agricentre, Dec 6th, allowed the Kalyna Country Ecomuseum Trust Society membership to celebrate their successes and plan for 2009. The meeting was well attended with representation from across the Kalyna area and guests were treated to a delicious and festive meal prepared by the Ladies of the Radway Agricentre.

Kalyna Country Chairperson, Kay Barron welcomed the crowd and relayed her pride and admiration for group; where they have come from and are heading to with the

launch of the new interactive Kalyna Country website. There are many impressive accomplishments over the past 10 years, for a group who is made up of such diverse backgrounds and businesses. A recap of the years' events was on the agenda and included reports of marketing strategies, developments, conferences and workshops. Kevin Kisilevich spoke of the organizations work in the area of Agri-tourism, which has seen the most growth this past year. An idea born in January from an agri-food workshop with local farmers; blossomed into Dine Kalyna a gourmet food samplings event that was held Aug 7th in conjunction with the Vegreville Country Fair. Local farmers partnered with top name chefs from some of Edmonton's top restaurants to create savory samples of gourmet local food that left the 350-person crowd more than satisfied. To add the final flair to Dine Kalyna, upon application,

Kalyna Country was nominated as a finalist in the province wide recognition of 'Marketing Excellence in Alberta Tourism'. Travel AB was represented at the meeting and encouraged other members of the Kalyna Country organization to look to Travel AB for assistance in promotion and funding their own private tourism business. "We are here to help," Brad Maxwell, Travel Alberta said.

Kalyna Country has provided grants for historical, cultural and environmental projects in the past and is pleased to announce the programs return with a deadline extension to January 31, 2009. These grants are intended to support projects that "contribute to the fostering and preservation of the unique human and natural heritage of rural east central Alberta." Applications are invited from non-profit or charitable organizations within Kalyna Country.

Proposal categories are as follows;

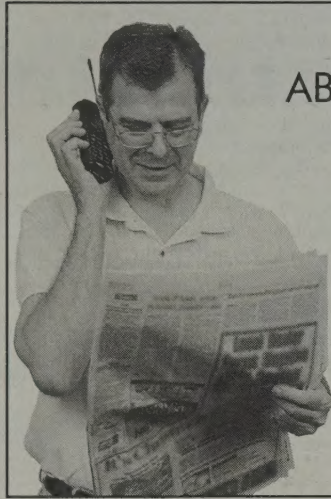
- Recognized and aspiring museums as well as historical societies are eligible for up to \$2000.
- Sponsors and organizers of a special event with a cultural or heritage theme are eligible for up to \$500.
- Research and publishing projects involving the dissemination of local histories in a variety of media are eligible for up to \$500.
- Natural history and conservation endeavours ranging from the issuing of educational pamphlets and the preparation of displays to the construction or maintenance of facilities are eligible for up to \$500.

Interested applicants should contact Kalyna Country as soon as possible at 1-888-452-5962, admin@kalynacountry.com or mail their application to Kalyna Country, Partners in Preservation Grant Program, Box 496, Vegreville, AB. T9C 1R6.

Also in attendance was Linda Strong-Watson of Alberta Trailnet and Northeast Alberta Trail Map, a winner of a Travel Alberta ALTO Award. She spoke of their project to map, maintain, develop and use the network of trails across Canada. Linda's group is a member of the greater Canadian Trails Association, which developed the Trans-Canada Trail. In Alberta, Linda remarked there is approximately 17,000km of trail, including Kalyna Country, the Mountain Parks and the rest of Alberta. The most well known trail in Kalyna Country is the Iron Horse Trail that runs from Waskatenau to Cold Lake along the old railway bed.

Other announcements for the evening included the Kalyna Country Relay for Life, June 14 & 15, 2009 organized by the Canadian Cancer Society. Centennial celebrations are planned for the communities of St. Paul, Tofield, Holden and Viking in 2009. A new real estate development project is already underway in Chipman. Finally Kikino Metis Settlement will be celebrating its 70th anniversary and Silver Birch Resort will host the 20th Kikino Rodeo in 2009.

The banquet followed highlighted by Guest Speaker Jim Marshall of Travel AB, formerly of Anderson Vacations. Jim gave an interesting and motivating talk about the acceptance of change in all its inevitable forms that face businesses and people on an ongoing basis, especially in the tourism industry. His recommendation is to take the change in stride and move forward to new ways and methods or be lost in the shuffle. He spoke of his success with Anderson Vacations with a brief look forward to his new position at Travel AB and his eagerness to work with operators in the Kalyna Country region.



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Water Well Workshop Coming to Flat Lake Hall

Informative local workshop will help residents protect their drinking water.

JANUARY 20, 2009 – Did you know a poorly maintained water well can put your water supply at risk? As a landowner, you're responsible for looking after the water wells on your property. If you are one of the 600,000 rural Albertans who get their drinking water from a well, the key to ensuring your water is safe and secure is understanding how groundwater works, learning about your well and knowing how to properly maintain it.

Proper water well siting, construction, maintenance and abandonment will help protect your well from biofouling and contamination, save you costly repairs, and ensure your well water yields are sustained over many years.

Learn what you can do to protect your well at a FREE WATER WELL MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

hosted by the County of St. Paul and the M.D. of Bonnyville
(with technical expertise from Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development,
Alberta Environment and the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration)

on **February 5, 2009** in Flat Lake.

This hands-on, informative workshop is designed to help well owners better understand and manage their precious water supply.

Sign up for our free water well management workshop today.
Please pre-register - so we can help you look up the drilling report for your well
- by calling the County of St. Paul No. 19 and
the M.D. Bonnyville office at: (780) 645-3006 or (780) 826-3951.

For more information or to register for this upcoming workshop please contact:
Jeremy Robinson or Matt Janz
Phone: (780) 645-3006 or (780) 826-3951
Email: jrobinson@county.stpaul.ab.ca or mjanz@md.bonnyville.ab.ca

Backgrounder – Protecting Your Water Well

A misunderstood resource

Despite its importance, many Albertans give little thought to groundwater and where it comes from. It is a common belief that groundwater comes from fast flowing underground rivers and lakes. This is not true. Groundwater is the water that fills the cracks and spaces between soil particles, sand grains and rock. An aquifer is simply a water-bearing zone in the ground where there are interconnected cracks and spaces (e.g. sand, gravel or fractured shale) that allow groundwater to move freely.

It is also a little known fact that groundwater and surface water are connected. In some areas groundwater can be a source of recharge for streams, lakes and dugouts. In other areas water from rivers, lakes, snowmelt and rain seeps into the ground, where it trickles downward until it reaches the water table. The water table is the point at which the ground is completely saturated with water. Below the water table, the spaces between every grain of soil and rock are completely filled with water.

Water, the great 'dissolver'

Water is the world's greatest solvent: it tries to dissolve everything it comes in contact with. This means manure, pesticides and fertilizers over-applied to lawns and fields can be carried by rain or snowmelt seeping down through the soil to the water table. Sewage from poorly maintained septic systems or spilled and improperly disposed-of chemicals can similarly seep into groundwater.

If you have highly permeable soils on your land, such as sand or gravel, your groundwater could be at higher risk, because these soils are poor filters. Having abandoned or poorly constructed or infrequently maintained wells on your property is even more risky because such structures could be draining surface water and everything it carries directly into your aquifer. The water well management workshop offers all the information you need to protect and maintain your well.

For more information on water well maintenance contact:
The Ag-Info Centre
Toll free in Alberta: 780-310-FARM (3276)



Ornate costumes and lively rhythm were featured in the Hutzulka, danced by the senior girls of the Metelytsia Dance Club.

Dancers pay tribute

(Continued from Front Page)

An entertaining account of "the man and his cow" came next, as the wife showed her husband how to better get along with his delightful, although sometimes annoying, dancing Bossy.

The settlers' delight in their successful harvest was celebrated with a gala Zabava, where they gath-

ered to eat, drink and be merry. The young men even had an opportunity to kick up their heels and show off for the girls, as the portrayal of the first year in the new land came to an end.

The senior dancers returned to the stage after a short intermission with more traditional Ukrainian dance, wearing the ornate embroidered vests and

handmade leather slippers of the Hutzul region as they skipped around a very realistic campfire in a lively Hutzulka.

The Malanka celebration began with a feast featuring many Ukrainian favourites, and also included a silent auction and door prize draws. The evening ended with a dance.

Minor hockey highlights

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The Sportsound spent the weekend skiing, but even though the planned Midget Girls tournament was canceled, it was a busy weekend for Elk Point's young hockey stars.

The Micro Novice Tornados had their second successful weekend in a row, winning a 10-6 decision when they visited Two Hills, Wolke Cueva scoring a hat trick, Jace Stafford and Devon Nazarchuk two apiece and Erin Duffee, Brendan Goertzen and Dylan Ference scoring singles.

The Atom Avalanche lost 7 to 10 in Bonnyville on Sunday, Brodin Ference scoring five goals and Dylan Odgaard two, Jewel Poitras and Chansie Botting provid-

ing strong defense.

The Pee wee Avs had two games this week. Thursday saw the visiting Cold Lake win 9-4, Jared Mc Gilvery with a pair and Rylan Buffalo and Davis Desjarlais with singles for the Avs.

Saturday saw the Pee wee Avs traveling to Paradise Hill to take on the top team in the league, Davis Desjarlais making the lone Elk Point goal. The Pee wees will play the first game of their first Provincial round against Dewberry this week.

It wasn't a great week for the Midget Girls Storm, with back-to-back 7-0, 7-0 losses to Lac La Biche. Coach Brent Becker said the second game was a "really gritty performance that sets a precedent for next time we meet them."

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